COVID 19 UPDATE DR AMY SLAGLE, MD

Covid 19 is now running rampant on the Reservation and in surrounding counties. We are in the exact situation we wanted to avoid: health care facilities pushed beyond their capacity to provide timely and adequate care.

- Area ERs and hospital floors are at capacity or over with Covid patients.
- MTC now has more requests for testing than capacity to accomplish daily.

The procedure for the Abbott "quick test" at MTC has been changed by the manufacturer and must be followed to assure accurate results. This decreases the number of quick tests we can do.

- People who are direct contacts or in quarantine will get the send-out test because the results will NOT change the length of time in quarantine if results are negative.
- People with mild symptoms may also get the send-out test if the lab becomes backed-up due to the new regulations mandated on the testing procedure.

People with any symptoms should be self-isolating regardless of test status.

• Testing capacity at MTC with extended hours is 80 daily. Those appointment times are now filling a few days in advance.

If you have any symptoms of Covid, please do not go to work, please stay home, and call MTC to get tested, knowing this may not be the same day and that you may not get a "quick test".

Rumors are out that "the flu" is started. There are no documented cases of influenza. If you have flu-like symptoms, you have Covid until proven otherwise.

Covid is spreading by gatherings of people outside the household. Measures you can take:

- If you get a ride from a friend or relative, DO NOT get in the car unless everyone in that car is masked.
- If you feel you must stop by someone else's home, wear a mask and ask the occupants to do the same.
- Do not eat in a break room, lunch area, with others. Eat outside, at your desk, in your car, ANYWHERE but in a small room with others.

- Do not think that camping, athletic events, or hunting is safe if you are in a camper with people you don't live with, walk together less than 6 feet apart without masks, stand together, etc. These types of interactions are spreading Covid.
- NO PACKER PARTIES!
- Please do not invite family to come over and visit.

THIS WEEK IS VITAL TO STOP THE SPREAD OF DISEASE ON THE RESERVATION AND AMONG MENOMINEE PEOPLE.

SPREAD THE WORD: STAY HOME. WEAR MASKS, STAY APART.